Possibility of misuse of RTI Act, by middle men

191. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have cautioned against the dangers of middlemen in disseminating Governmental information using the Right to Information Act (RTI);

(b) if so, what measures have been taken by Government to guard against the growth of professional middle men in the use of this Act; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): (a) The Prime Minister in his address at the National Conference on RTI on 15.10.06 has cautioned against the growth of professional middle men in the use of Right to Information Act, 2005, as seen in some other countries.

(b) and (c) The Act empowers all the citizens to seek information directly from the public authorities thereby obviating the need for middle men.

Implementation of a decision of CoS.

192. SHRI MOTIUR RAHMAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is mandatory for Government to implement the decisions taken in the Committee of Secretaries (CoS) headed by the Cabinet Secretary and if not, the reasons for appointing CoS;

(b) whether Government propose to take action against DoPT for not implementing the decision of CoS to revise OM dated 14th July, 1981;

(c) whether CoS meeting was attended by the Secretary (Personnel) and his concerned Joint Secretary and others to review DoPT OM dated 14th July, 1981; and

(d) whether there is any proposal to immediately direct DoPT to implement decisions taken in CoS meeting held on 2nd June, 2004?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI):

(a) to (d) The Committee of Secretaries meets to discuss important issues referred to it by Departments/Ministries. It makes recommendations which are considered by the competent authority for an appropriate decision. The Committee of Secretaries which met on 2.6.2004 considered the question of purchase preference for Kendriya Bhandar and made certain recommendations. However, the Ministry of Finance, after extensive review, issued new GFR 2005 modifying provisions of GFR 1963. That Ministry later clarified that the special dispensation of Kendriya Bhandar etc. would no longer be available under the new GFRs and Govemment Departments etc. should procure stationery and other items strictly in accordance with the provisions of the GFRs.

Training for the Commonwealth Games

193. SHRI RAMADHAR KASHYAP:
SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY:

Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated any planning for trainning of the sportspersons for the coming Commonwealth Games to be held in Delhi in 2010;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of facilities being granted for giving training to trie sportspersons for Commonwealth Games; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) to (d) The Government is providing assistance to the National Sports Federations (NSFs) for training and participation of sportspersons in international sports events abroad, organization of national/ international tournaments in India, training/coaching of national level sportspersons/teams under Indian and foreign coaches with requisite technical & scientific backup, procurement of sports equipment etc. A proposal/Scheme for improving medal prospects of Indian sportspersons in the Commonwealth Games, 2010, is also under consideration. In this context the Govemment is also reviewing the various components of the